

S. 66

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Ohio [Mr. DEWINE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 66, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage capital formation through reductions in taxes on capital gains, and for other purposes.

S. 202

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SESSIONS], the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON], and the Senator from New York [Mr. D'AMATO] were added as cosponsors of S. 202, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age.

S. 211

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the period of time for the manifestation of chronic disabilities due to undiagnosed symptoms in veterans who served in the Persian Gulf war in order for those disabilities to be compensable by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 224

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 224, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit covered beneficiaries under the military health care system who are also entitled to medicare to enroll in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program, and for other purposes.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 260, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to penalties for crimes involving cocaine, and for other purposes.

S. 263

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 263, a bill to prohibit the import, export, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, acquisition, and receipt of bear viscera or products that contain or claim to contain bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 306

At the request of Mr. FORD, the name of the Senator from Florida [Mr. GRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 306, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a decrease in the maximum rate of tax on capital gains which is based on the length of time the taxpayer held the capital asset.

S. 347

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland [Ms. MIKULSKI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 347, a bill to designate the Federal building located at 100 Ala-

bama Street NW, in Atlanta, GA, as the "Sam Nunn Federal Center."

S. 348

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 348, a bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to encourage States to enact a Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights, to provide standards and protection for the conduct of internal police investigations, and for other purposes.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS: Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation.

The hearing, which will take place over 2 days, will be held on Thursday, March 13, 1997 and Thursday, March 20, 1997. Each session will begin at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this oversight hearing is to address the future of the National Park System and to identify and discuss needs, requirements, and innovative programs that will insure Park Service will continue to meet its many responsibilities well into the next century.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC. 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5161.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Thursday, February 27, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. in open session, to receive testimony concerning the Department of Defense actions pertaining to the Persian Gulf illness.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on February 27, 1997, at 10 a.m. on TV Violence.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, February 27, 1997, beginning at 11 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 27, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. to approve the committee's letter to the Committee on the Budget concerning the committee's budget views and estimates for fiscal year 1998 for Indian programs. The meeting will be held in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on Reauthorization of Higher Education Act during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 27, 1997, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for a hearing on S. 208, the HUBZone Act of 1997 on Thursday, February 27, 1997, which will begin at 9:30 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, the Finance Committee Subcommittee on Health Care requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, February 27, 1997, beginning at 2 p.m. in room SD-215.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Relations of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 27, 1997, at 11 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, 1997 to receive testimony on ballistic missile defense programs in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 1998 and the future years defense program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MACON RIDGE ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY

• Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, on February 27, 1997, the Macon Ridge enterprise community, consisting of portions of Catahoula, Concordia, Franklin, Morehouse, and Tensas Parishes in Louisiana, is to be awarded the Community Empowerment Award by the American Association of Enterprise Zones.

I am very proud to have Louisiana's own Macon Ridge recognized as the best enterprise community in the Nation. The Macon Ridge Enterprise Community is an example to the Nation of the success that can be derived from community-based economic development.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture designated the Macon Ridge enterprise community as 1 of the 30 rural enterprise communities across the United States, from some 227 applicants, on December 21, 1994. The enterprise community is administered by the Macon Ridge Development Region, Inc., which is a multifaceted economic development organization serving 11 parishes in northeast Louisiana.

The Macon Ridge enterprise community has, in the first 12 months of operation, created or retained 523 jobs, started 3 business incubators, had over 523 residents in job training or literacy programs, and leveraged some \$3.316 million in additional funding.

The executive director of the Macon Ridge enterprise community, Mr. Buddy Spillers, as well as the Macon Ridge Enterprise Community Advisory Council and the Macon Ridge Board of Directors, are to be commended for their tireless efforts to create the opportunities and partnerships in Macon Ridge which have brought about this progress.

In closing, Mr. President, I take this occasion to offer my sincere congratulations to the Macon Ridge enterprise community, not only for meriting this award, but for the vast economic development opportunities which it has created in Louisiana and for the outstanding model which it provides to the State and the Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO TERRY KOEHLER

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to extend my best wishes for a full and rapid recovery by Mr. Terry Koehler, a teacher at Lahser High School in Bloomfield Hills, MI. Involved in a very serious skiing accident in mid-February, Mr. Koehler is currently convalescing in Reno, NV.

In the meanwhile, the entire Bloomfield Hills community eagerly looks forward to Mr. Koehler's return. A quick glance at his extensive involve-

ment throughout the school district and it is readily apparent why, at present, he is so sorely missed. In addition to his duties teaching math, Mr. Koehler is a coach with Lahser's championship winning boy's and girl's swim teams. He serves in the multiple roles of commissioner, coach, and player in the school's intramural basketball program. He runs the school chess club. And, as a major in the U.S. Army Reserves, Mr. Koehler's civic commitments are hardly limited to just Lahser High School.

Exceptional teachers are assets to any community, as are dedicated public servants. When someone exemplifies the finest qualities of both, their presence is all the more valued. Indeed, Terry Koehler is such an individual. I join his countless friends, colleagues, and students in wishing Terry, his wife Diane and the rest of his family strength and courage during this difficult time; and I look forward to the news of his return to good health, to the profession he so honorably serves and to the students whose lives he touches every day.●

NEW ENGLAND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to recognize and commend the efforts of over 250 community residents from all over New England who are meeting next weekend in Boston at the First New England Community Leadership Institute. The 3-day conference of 34 classes, 16 roundtable discussions, and 4 networking group sessions is designed to educate, rejuvenate, empower, and excite the core constituents of the NeighborWorks Network of over 50 New England low- and moderate-income communities. These new and emerging leaders are concerned about events taking place in their communities, willing to take on these challenges, and eager to become part of the solution. At this event, they will be able to share experiences and solutions, motivate and encourage each other, and lead their neighborhoods into the 21st century.

I would like to commend the tremendous leadership potential of the participants and their remarkable commitment to improving their neighborhoods. Without their support and hard work, the programs, initiatives, and collaborations being formed at the State and Federal level cannot succeed. In the neighborhoods in which these citizens work, we can already begin to see change taking place in the rising home ownership rates, decreasing crime rates, and growing community pride. These residents represent the best hope of the future in our neighborhoods and Massachusetts is proud to welcome them.●

TRIBUTE TO BRIG. GEN. CASIMIR PULASKI

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of Casimir Pulaski, as

we commemorate the 250th anniversary of his birth, and acknowledge his exemplary service to our country.

Casimir Pulaski was born in Warka, Poland on March 4, 1747. Before coming to America in 1777, he distinguished himself in Poland's battle for independence from Russia. Forced to flee his native country because of his activities on behalf of Polish freedom, he became an exile.

When Pulaski first arrived in America to aid the colonists in the American Revolution, he led a valiant counterattack at the Battle of Brandywine which saved the retreating American army from being cut off by the British.

At the insistence of Gen. George Washington, the Continental Congress appointed Pulaski brigadier general and the first commander of the American cavalry. His services in the field justly won him the title of "Father of the American Cavalry."

On October 9, 1779, at the Battle of Savannah, GA, Pulaski led a daring, but fatal, charge against the heavily fortified British forces occupying the city.

Today, the people of Illinois proudly remember General Pulaski's courageous sacrifice fighting for our Nation's independence, and his defense of the freedoms that we cherish in America.

The anniversary of Casimir Pulaski's birth will be celebrated on March 2, 1997, at a special dinner ceremony in Chicago. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Chicago Society of the Polish National Alliance for hosting this commemorative dinner, and commend its efforts to help restore the Pulaski Monument in Savannah, GA.

The Pulaski Monument, whose cornerstone was laid by the Marquis Lafayette in 1825, is currently in a state of disrepair. With the hard work and dedication of the Chicago Society and donations from the people of Savannah, this 55-foot-tall historic monument will soon stand with renewed glory as a symbol of patriotism for all future generations of Americans.

Mr. President, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Brig. Gen. Casimir Pulaski on behalf of my home State of Illinois. I invite my colleagues in the Senate to join me in commemorating this heroic patriot and in honoring the many accomplishments Polish-Americans have made throughout history.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT SANFORD, OWNER OF THE MASON VALLEY NEWS

• Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to newspaper publisher Robert Sanford, who is celebrating his 40th anniversary as owner of the Mason Valley News. Mr. Sanford's tireless stewardship has helped make the Mason Valley News one of the finest newspapers of its kind and a model for journalistic integrity.

The Mason Valley News is a weekly newspaper that serves northern Nevada. Since Mr. Sanford became owner